



FACT SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MANILA
**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

OVERVIEW

The Philippines, a longstanding U.S. ally and Southeast Asia's oldest democracy, has historic ties with the United States and is an important development, trade, and regional partner. Unfortunately, the Philippines has not enjoyed the same level of economic success as its neighbors have over the past 30 years. Approximately, 45

percent of the Philippines' population continues to live below the international poverty line of \$2 a day. **U.S.**

Agency for International Development (USAID) is a key player in the U.S.-Philippines Partnership for Growth (PFG) Initiative. The PFG, which is implemented in only four countries, is a whole-of-government effort to help address the most serious constraints to accelerated and inclusive growth in the Philippines.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

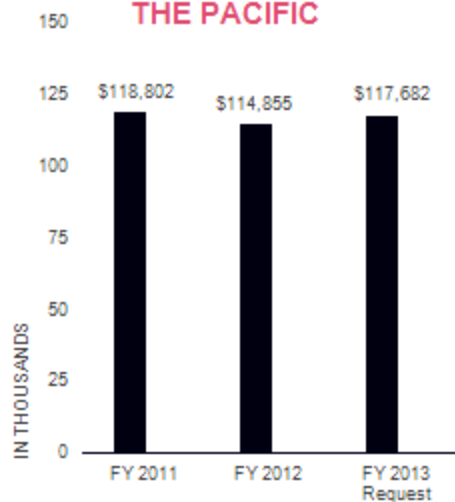
USAID assistance is helping to combat corruption, promote the rule of law, strengthen local democratic governance, and support democratic election processes. Under the PFG, USAID will support activities to strengthen the rule of law through a more efficient court system and promote a more transparent legal and regulatory regime. USAID is enhancing service delivery, transparency, and accountability among local governments. USAID interventions in conflict-affected areas of Mindanao are improving the transparency of local government units and their capacity to deliver socio-economic services needed to foster inclusive growth. USAID interventions will also strengthen civic engagement in socio-economic initiatives and support the development of youth leaders. USAID is supporting the Philippine

government and non-governmental efforts to implement the anti-trafficking in persons law, promote prosecution of trafficking cases, support preventive measures through community education and awareness campaigns, and provide care and training for trafficked victims.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

USAID is supporting activities under the PFG that will generate increased local employment and incomes by fostering a more open and competitive business environment with lower barriers to entry. USAID is also supporting fiscal stability through better fiscal policy and expenditure management. Assistance is supporting secondary cities with high growth potential to enhance their competitiveness and promote a business environment that can attract investment, facilitate trade, and spur private sector growth.

USAID ASSISTANCE TO THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PACIFIC



Funding Sources: Development Assistance, and Global Health and Child Survival Funds

For more information, see the
FY2013 Congressional Budget Justification
<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/>

*Funding includes \$9.5 million each year for the Pacific Islands.



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EDUCATION

USAID supports the Philippine government in improving the quality of basic and higher education. Programs in basic education improve early grade reading and address gender disparities. In higher education, USAID is strengthening research capacity and faculty development at local universities, supporting science and technology to increase the innovative capacity in high-growth and high value-added sectors, and establishing and strengthening linkages between academia and industry to ensure that students graduate with relevant, marketable skills.

ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

To promote clean and renewable energy, USAID is helping to better manage rapidly deteriorating forest, coastal, and marine resources. USAID is also helping to strengthen the climate resiliency of key energy and water infrastructure, environmental services, and fragile ecosystems by providing tools to address risks posed by natural disaster and reduce carbon emissions.

HEALTH

USAID supports the Philippine Government's goal to achieve universal access to health. At the national and local levels, USAID is improving access to maternal and child health care, family planning information and services, and tuberculosis prevention and control services. Programs focus on the poor and marginalized communities, including the conflict-affected areas of Mindanao. In addition, USAID is leveraging private sector contributions to improve public health outcomes, and increase utilization of health services and commodities.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID, through its Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, provides humanitarian assistance to the Philippines in response to natural and man-made disasters.

In coordination with the Philippine Government, USAID has provided support for emergency relief, early recovery and rehabilitation initiatives. Emergency assistance is focused on the delivery of relief commodities such as tarpaulins and transitional shelter kits, blankets, plastic mats, water containers and hygiene kits to affected families and communities.

EXAMPLES OF OUR IMPACT

- USAID pioneered mobile banking applications in the Philippines, making the country one of the few global leaders in mobile banking.
- USAID supported the first successful automated national elections and the orderly and democratic transition of power in 2010.
- USAID has improved access to clean water and sanitation for 1.5 million Filipinos since 2005.

For more information, please visit <http://philippines.usaid.gov/>.